

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 03076 262056 Z

73

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 ADP-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 USIA-12 TRSE-00 MBFR-03

SAJ-01 SS-15 NSC-10 DODE-00 PPT-02 VO-03 SCA-01 CU-04

SY-10 RSR-01 /133 W

----- 057047

R 261906 Z JUN 73

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 620

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

USINT CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 3076

E. O. 11652: GDS, 12-31-79

TAGS: PFOR, CPAS, LY, AG

SUBJ: LIBYAN PASSPORTS

REF: A. USNATO 2972 B. STATE 123746

SUMMARY: BELGIAN AND NETHERLANDS REPS TOLD POLADS
JUNE 26 OF DECISION BY THEIR GOVERNMENTS TO EMPLOY
ARABIC LANGUAGE STAMPS. TURKISH REP SAID THAT ANKARA
IS WORRIED ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF TERRORISTS EXPLOITING
NEW PROCEDURE. FRENCH REP REPORTED THAT FRENCH
NATIONALS HAVE ENCOUNTERED NO DIFFICULTIES WITH NEW
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NATO 03076 262056 Z

PROCEDURES. END SUMMARY.

1. NETHERLANDS AND BELGIUM HAVE DECIDED TO JOIN OTHER
NATO GOVERNMENTS, EXCEPT FOR U. S., IN FOLLOWING SOME
VARIATION OF FRENCH PRACTICE OF EMPLOYING AN ARABIC

LANGUAGE STAMP IN PASSPORTS. NETHERLANDS WILL PUT A STAMP ONLY IN DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS OF THOSE ACCREDITED TO LIBYA, SO AS NOT TO JEOPARDIZE FIVE CATEGORIES OF EXCEPTIONS AUTHORIZED BY LIBYA. BELGIUM WILL PUT STAMP ONLY IN PASSPORTS OF "SERIOUS" TRAVELERS, WHICH MEANS EVERYONE BUT TOURISTS. ADDED BELGIAN RATIONALE IS THAT THIS PRACTICE SHOULD SERVE TO DISCOURAGE EGYPTIAN ACCEPTANCE OF LIBYAN PRACTICE, FOLLOWING UNION, BECAUSE EGYPT RELIES HEAVILY ON TOURISM.

2. ON QUESTION OF RECIPROCITY, UK REP SAID HMG AGREES WITH FRANCE THAT INSISTENCE BY WESTERN GOVERNMENTS THAT LIBYA ALSO USE A STAMP WOULD TEND TO LEGITIMIZE PRACTICE AND WEAKEN WESTERN CASE IN CONTINUING TO URGE THAT LIBYA MODIFY ITS POLICY.

3. IN CONTRAST, TURKISH REP STRONGLY ARGUED FOR STRICT RECIPROCITY AND CRITICIZED FRENCH PRACTICE OF LEAVING IT TO LIBYAN EMBASSY OR PASSPORT HOLDER TO FILL IN ARABIC INFORMATION IN SPECIAL STAMP. TURKISH REP CONTENDED IT FAR PREFERABLE FOR ISSUING GOVERNMENT TO FILL IN ALL BLANKS ON STAMP, INCLUDING ARABIC. OTHERWISE, MOVEMENT OF TERRORISTS COULD BE FACILITATED BECAUSE PASSPORT HOLDER COULD FILL IN FALSE INFORMATION TO HIDE IDENTITY (FOR EXAMPLE, ASSUMING RECIPROCITY, HOLDER OF LIBYAN PASSPORT IN ARABIC COULD COMPLETE STAMP IN TURKISH; TURKISH BORDER OFFICIALS ORDINARILY WOULD NOT BE IN A POSITION TO SPOT DISCREPANCY BETWEEN INFO WRITTEN IN ARABIC AND TURKISH).

4. US REP REPEATED US OPPOSITION TO USE OF ARABIC STAMP. HE NOTED THAT ALLIES WERE IN PROCESS OF IMPLEMENTING A NOVELTY IN INTERNATIONAL PRACTICE. YET THEY WERE NOT EVEN AGREED ON HOW TO PROCEED: SOME WILL PUT STAMP ONLY IN DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS, OTHERS IN ALL BUT DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS; SOME WILL NOT USE STAMP FOR TOURISTS, OTHER

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 NATO 03076 262056 Z

WILL RESTRICT STAMP ONLY TO "SERIOUS" CASES; SOME WILL DEMAND RECIPROCITY, OTHERS WILL NOT; SOME WILL NOT FILL IN ARABIC BLANKS, OTHERS WILL FILL THEM IN. AND NO ONE KNOWS HOW LIBYANS WILL REACT. RESULTING CONFUSION COULD MAKE IT EASIER FOR TERRORISTS TO MOVE ACROSS FRONTIERS.

US REP SUGGESTED THAT ALLIES CONSIDER THIS ASPECT OF PROBLEM AT NEXT MEETING.

5. COMMENT: US IS NOW COMPLETELY ISOLATED. THERE IS NOW NO CONSENSUS IN NATO, EXCEPT SOMEHOW TO EMPLOY A STAMP ACCEPTABLE TO LIBYA. WHILE WE BELIEVE THAT TURKISH CONCERN REGARDING TERRORISTS MAY STEM FROM THEIR PARTICULAR VISA SYSTEM, WE WOULD WELCOME

DEPARTMENT'S REACTION AS TO WHETHER TERRORISTS COULD
TAKE ADVANTAGE OF SITUATION. PREDNERGAST

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 02 APR 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 JUN 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973NATO03076
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730634/abqceaok.tel
Line Count: 113
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. USNATO 2972 B. STATE 123746
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10-Aug-2001 by elyme>; APPROVED <13-Sep-2001 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LIBYAN PASSPORTS
TAGS: PFOR, CPAS, LY, AG
To: STATE INFO ANKARA
BEIRUT
BONN
THE HAGUE
LONDON
PARIS
ROME

TRIPOLI
TUNIS
VALLETTA
CAIRO

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005